

U.S. Serial No. 09/857,357
Attorney Docket No. 46613-00117
Amendment under 37 C.F.R. §1.312

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (previously presented) Device for adjusting the gap of a die arrangement using a thermopin, in which the thermopin is connected to the die lip (10) without any play and this play-free fixing of the thermopin (1) to the die lip (10) is effected by means of a clamp socket (7), where said clamp socket (7) engages on the one hand in a lip nose (11) and on the other hand in a groove (5) of the thermopin (1), where the lip nose (11) is an integral part of the die lip (10) and the clamp socket (7) has a mid-point and a bore (8) formed substantially in said mid-point of said clamp socket (7) and the thermopin (1) has a bore (4) and a fixing means is passed through the bores (8) and (4), said thermopin (1) having a lower end (2), said lower end (2) of said thermopin (1) that is in contact with said lip nose (11) having a taper, said taper terminating in a pointed tip (3), said thermopin bore (4) being situated between said pointed lip (3) and said groove (5).

2. (cancelled)

3. (cancelled)

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4. (previously presented) Device according to claim 1, characterized in that a comb strip (14) is attached to the die lip (10), and the thermopins (1) are inserted between the individual teeth of the comb strip (14) on fixing to the die lip (10).

5. (previously presented) Device according to claim 4, characterized in that the comb strip (14) is a separate part which is reversibly fixed to the die lip (10).

6. (previously presented) Device according to claim 1, characterized in that the thermopin (1) is surrounded by a coil heating/cooling cartridge (19).

7. (previously presented) Device according to claim 6, characterized in that the coil-type heating/cooling cartridge warms the thermopin via an electric, spirally open wound heating coil.

8. (original) Device according to claim 7, characterized in that the cooling of the thermopin (1) is effected by the inflow of a cooling medium into the free space between the heating coil and the jacket of the tubular heating element.

9. (previously presented) Device according to claim 1, characterized in that the thermopin has, at the upper end remote from the die lip, an external thread via which it is connected to a horizontal retention strip (18), the retention strip having a corresponding bore with internal thread.

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10. (previously presented) Slot die, characterized in that said thermopin of Claim 1 is fixed to the die lip (10) without any play.

11. (original) Slot die, according to Claim 10, characterized in that the lip nose (11) has slots, and intervals between these slots correspond to the intervals of the thermopins.

12. (previously presented) Method for adjusting the gap of a slot die, characterized in that the change in the height of the die gap is carried out using thermopins according to claim 1.

13 through 15. (cancelled)

16. (previously presented) Device for adjusting the gap of a die arrangement using a thermopin, in which the thermopin is connected to the die lip (10) without any play and this play-free fixing of the thermopin (1) to the die lip (10) is effected by means of a clamp socket (7), where said clamp socket (7) engages on the one hand in a lip nose (11) and on the other hand in a groove (5) of the thermopin (1), where the lip nose (11) is an integral part of the die lip (10) and the clamp socket (7) has a mid-point and a bore (8) formed substantially in said mid-point of said clamp socket (7) and the thermopin (1) has a bore (4) and a fixing means is passed through the bores (8) and (4).

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17. (previously presented) Device according to claim 16, characterized in that a comb strip (14) is attached to the die lip (10), and the thermopins (1) are inserted between the individual teeth of the comb strip (14) on fixing to the die lip (10).

18. (previously presented) Device according to claim 16, characterized in that the comb strip (14) is a separate part which is reversibly fixed to the die lip (10).

19. (previously presented) Device according to claim 16, characterized in that the thermopin (1) is surrounded by a coil heating/coiling cartridge (19).

20. (previously presented) Device according to claim 19, characterized in that the coil-type heating/cooling cartridge warms the thermopin via an electric, spirally open wound heating coil.

21. (previously presented) Device according to claim 20, characterized in that the cooling of the thermopin (1) is effected by the inflow of a cooling medium into the free space between the heating coil and the jacket of the tubular heating element.

22. (previously presented) Device according to claim 16, characterized in that the thermopin has, at the upper end remote from the die lip, an external thread via which it is connected to a horizontal retention strip (18), the retention strip having a corresponding bore with internal thread.